¶ This lytell treatyse compendiously declareth the damage and destruction in Realmes / caused by the Serpente of Diuision.

Whylome as olde bokꝫ maketh mencion: whan the noble and famous Cite of Rome: was moste chynynge in hys felicite and flouring i his glozy / lyke as it is remembred in the bokes of olde antiquite: in the pryme tẽps of his foundacion whan the walles were reised on hyght by the manly and prudent diligence of Remus and Romulus: the Cite stode vnder gouernaũce of kynges tyll vnto the tyme that Tarquine: sonne of Tarquine the proude: dyd the great outrageous offence vnto Lucres/wyfe of the worthy Senatoure Collatine. In punyssshyng of whiche trespasse by the mãly pursuyte of Collatynes kynred and full assente of all the Senate: the name of kyngꝫ ceased i the Cite of Rome for euermore/ & all the royall stocke of the forsaid Tarquyne was proscripte & put in exyle. ✠ And after by the prudent aduyse of the Senate: the Cite was gouerned bytwene Counseylers / and so contynued vnto the tyme that Pompey the proude was repayred home agayne from the conqueste of Tyre / whiche by force he had made subiecte vnto the empyre of Rome: where

as with great worthines of fame he was receyued. So that for his great nobleſſe he was chosen one of the three for to gouerne the Cyte: assygned to hym other two full renomed of knyghthode: Julius Cezar / and Marcus Crassus / and thus was the name of Counseylers tourned in to the name of Dictatours / whyche was that tyme an office partinent to prynces to gouerne other. And for a spec'all cause this office and this occupacion of a Dictatoure: by assente of all the hole Senate was cõmytted vnto thre/that if one offended: the other twayne shulde be myghty and stronge to correcte the thyrde. ✠ And an other cause was this. ✠ whyle that twaine were occupied in warre outwarde the thyrde shulde gouerne at home. And thus all the whyle they were of one harte of one assent / and voyde of variaunce amonge them selfe: the nobleſſe of Rome floured in prosperite. But as sone as falſe coueityſe brought in pryde and vayne ambicion: The cõtageous Serpẽte of Diuiſion clypsed and appalled her worthynes/ cõcludyng forthly as in sentence that euery kingdome pyed by diuiſion is cõueyed to his distruction. And so for the surquedous pryde on the partye of Julius: and

after of the sayd Cite of Rome: the contageous couetyse entremedled with enuy on the partye of Pompey: made the famous Cite of Rome fully wast and wylde nat onely of theyr innumerable treasure: but caused thē also to be full bareyne and desolate of theyr men/where tofore of worthynes/ of knyghthode/ and of chyualry: they were incomparable. ❧ And finally the false diuision amonge them selfe: was more importable vnto them: and caused more the ruyne of the Cite/thā whā they had warre with all the worlde / lyke as this lytell storye compendiously shall declyse. ¶ And to conuey briefly the processe of this mater: ye shall fyrste vnderstande that Marcus Crassus was sente to the parties of the Northe with syre legions of knyghtes agaynste the kynge of Parthes. ¶ And the manly man Julius Cezar with other syrte legions of people was sent downe passing the great bondes of Lombardy/descending downe by hygh Alpyes / & auaylyng downe by the large plage of Germany and of Almaygne/ tyl by conqueste: by his manly force and his mortall swerde he brought all France in to subiection/ & all the lande of Burgoyne Brabant/ Flaunders/ and Holande. In

whiche cōquest he cōtynued tyll almoste the space of his Lustre was wasted out. That is to say: that was the space limyted of the Romanes: the whiche was called a Lustre/ which is accōpted the space of .v. yere/ & who so euer passed that space by accasion of any cōquest & nat repaired agayne at his tyme set & lymyted of fyue yere: he was foriuged anone & dēpt asenemy & rebell vnto the noble Cite of Rome ¶ But this famous & manly mā Julius prudently demynge in his opynyon that tyme loste whyle that fortune is blandesshig & fauourable: through the cōtageo⁹ occasyon of negligēce & of slouth: is afterward ful harde for to be recouered. wherfore of knyghthode & manly prowesse he dyd set the Romanes statutz asyde: & fully purposed in his noble & knyghtlyherte for to passe the bondes & the space of his Lustre/ and to enforce hym selfe with his chyualry to wynne the bondz of Bretain and ouersayle by force the weste party of our Occean. But for all his surquedous pryde he was twyes beten of at his aryuale by the worthynes of the Bretō king called Cassybelan. And playnly without fauour to declare & specify the trouth he migh neuer attayne to aryue at his luste

and pleasure: tyll this manly kyng Cassybelan and Androgenes duke of Cornewayle: fell at debate amonge them selfe/ wherby I may cõclude that whyles vnyte and accorde stode vndefoyled & vndeuyded in the bondz of Bretaine: the mighty conquerour Julius was vnable and impotent to vaynquisshe thē. ¶By whiche ensample ye may cuydently cõsyder and se: that diuisiõ lyke as is specified tofore ys originall cause in prouynces and regions of all destruction: For whan Julius by fauoure of Androgenes recouered aryuale into Bretayne: shortly after Cassybelane the manly kynge: proudely and knyghtly met with hym / betwene whõ there was a mortall warre. But lyke as it is especially remembred and recorded by the wrytynge of the moste worthye and graduate clerke Eusebius that same daye whan Julius and Cassybelan met in the felde: this forsayd Cassybelane had a famous and a passyng manly man to his Brother: the whiche with his blody mortall swerde neuer ceased to sle and oppresse the proude Romane knyghtes / so farforth that they fledde and eschewed his swerde as the deth. ✠ For as he wente there was no resystence. And

✠

this contynued so longe that the Romanes were impotent to resyste. ✗ But Oh alas whan he was weried of fyght: it befell casually of Fortune whiche is ay contrary and peruerse: that he of aduenture met with this manly man Julius / and both two lyke as made is mencion: fared as Tygres and Lyons / euerychе woundyng other full mortally/tyll sodeynly by disposiciō of fate: Julius with an vnware stroke of his dredfull swerde rofe hym atwene. ✗ And bycause the story maketh no mencyon what this worthye knyght hyght: I fynde none other name of hym but that he was brother vnto the noble Breton kyng Cassybelan. ✗ The deth of whome Bretons ought full well to complayne/ by whose deth Julius was made victorious / and Cassybelane brought to subiection vnto the Empyre of Rome / & constreyned by Cezar to paye for his truage/ thre thousande pounde euery yere. ✗ ¶ And in the sygne of this conqueste and victory Julius Cezar edified in this lāde for a perpetuall memory to put his name in remēbraūce: the castell of Douer / and Caunterbury/ Rochester / and the towre of London/the castell & the towne of Cezarisbury/whiche nowe is called Salesbury

And more ouer as saythe myne auctoure he edifyed Cezaris Chester/ that nowe is called Chychester/ & the castell of Exceter ¶ And in the meane whyle that Cezar thus proudely had holy & entyerly the gouernaūce of Brutes Albyon: his felowe Marcus Crassus of whōm tofore is made mencion: was slayne in the Est partye of the worlde / whyle he made moste cruell warre agaynste the fyers people of Parthes. ☞ And for his gredy vnstauncheable thurste of couetyse/ his enemyes slewe hym in this wyse. ☞ They made melte golde & poured it in to his mouthe / saying to hym in this wyse. ☞ Aurum sitisti: aurū bibe. Thou hast thursted golde all thy lyfe: nowe drynke thy fyll. ¶ Lo here ye may cōsyder and se the shorte and the momentany tyme transytory and nat abydyng of all the warriours. And as the story reherseth also: as for lamētable kalende of more infortune that after shulde folowe: Julia the noble wyfe of Pompey and doughter to Cezar dyed of a chylde. For whiche cause Pompeyus pretended to fynde a cause to reuoke Cezar agayne to Rome by assēte of all the Senate to the intent that he shulde come in his owne pſone to reuenge in all haste the deth of his

felowe Marcus Crassus: as before is
sayd so vengeably slayne in his cõquest
¶ This same Pompey hauyng a secrete
drede in his concept lest that Julius Ce-
sar shulde ware so myghty in his cõquest
that he shulde nat be egall of power / nor
able to resyste hym in his repayre / and
dredynge also in his ymagination leste
that Julius wolde of presũptuous pryde
vsurpe by tyranny to take vpon hym the
lordeshype and the domination of Rome
But this manly man Cesar aduertynge
full prudently and perceyuyng the frau-
dulent meanyng of Pompey on that one
syde: and the compassed steyght of the
Senate of that other syde: full aduysedly
gaue answere agayne that he wolde ac-
complysshe and perfourme his conqueste
whiche he had begon / and than meekely
and humbly at theyr requeste repayre
home agayne. ✠ And in this wyse entred
in the snake of wanhope and of discorde:
whiche caused euerychc to suspecte other
and thus began to kyndle the fyre of en-
uy / enduring successyuely warre & debate
among thẽ selfe / & here vpon without de
lay to execute theyr purpose: & euydently
to shewe the ende of theyr intent: Pom-
pey & the Senate of one assent without

respite or deliberation forynged Cesar gylty/disobeysante/rebell / and traytoure to Rome/ and gaue vpō hym a sentēce diffinityue of exyle & proscripcion for euermore. ¶ But Julius nat cōsyderyng nor hauyng no maner cuydence ne suspecion of that malicio⁹ cōspiracy that ꝑompey and the Senate wrought agaynste hym. But all innocent and vnknowlegynge of theyr enuyous malyce by good and diligent deliberacion of intent dyd sende his Imbassatoures : nat vnto his sonne in lawe ꝑompey : but also vnto all the worthy courte of the Senate/and to all other of the Citezens of the Cite / requiryng and prayng thē of equite/that for his meritory deserte : they shulde nat be cōtrary agaynste hym / nor for none occasyon of wylfulnes : to deny vnto hym his custumable guerdon the whiche is due of olde antiquite to be gyuē to cōquerours : but that they wolde frely & wylfully (vncompelled) graūt hym & put hym i possessiō of the ꝑalme & the triūph whiche so lōg by knyghtly labour & māly diligence he had for the encrease & the augmētacion of the comon profite of all the empire of Rome trauayled for. ¶ Thā for to specifye and declare the honour & Triūphe whylome

vsed in Rome: Fyrste ye shall vnderstãde that Triumphus by discripcion: is as moche to saye in Englysshe as a treble gladnes / or els a synguler excellency of ioye/ in thre maner of wyse ordeyned for victours: whiche through theyr hygh renowme and mãly prowesse had brought regions and cities by way of knyghly cõqueste to be subiecte & trybutary vnto the Empyre of Rome. ¶ The fyrste of the thre worshipes done to a cõquerour: was this. ¶ Fyrste at his repayre vnto the Cite: all the people of hye estate and of lowe: shulde with great ioye & reuerence in theyr best & richest aray: mete hym on the way. And this was the fyrste. ¶ The seconde was this / that all the prysoners and they that were in captiuite: shulde fetred & manacled go roũde aboute enuiron his charet: sõe before & some behynde ¶ And the thyrde worshype done vnto hym this was. That he shulde be clad ĩ a purpurate mãtell of Jupiter as god/ and syt with a crowne of Laurer vpõ his heed in a charet of golde / & about his necke a maner of a cercle enuyron made of golde: in symylitude & lykenes of a Palme. And if so that his cõqueste were ꝑfourmed & accõplysshed withoutẽ sworde or shedynge

of blode: thā shuld the cercle of the Palme be forged without pryckȝ or pynnes. And if so were that his victory was fynysshed by the cruell fate of warre: thā of custūe his sercle or his pectorall was forged all full of sharpe pryckig thornes/ to declare and specify that there is no cōqueste accō plysshed fully to the ende by mediacion of warre: without that there be felte and foūde therin the sharpe thornes of aduer sire/ & that outher by deth or els by pouer te. And this royall victorious Charet to foresayd was drawen with foure whyte stedes through the most royall stretes of the cite to the Capitoly/he hauyng a cep tre in his hande full rychely deuysed: and therupon in sygne of victory an Egle of golde. And to shewe clerely that al world ly glory is transitory & nat abydyng: and euydently to declare that in hyghe estate is no assuraūce: there was set at the back of the cōquerour / behynde in the charet/ the most vnlykely persone/ and the moste wretche: that in any countrey myght be founde/disfygured & clad in the most vgly wyse that any man coulde deuyse. ✗ And amyd all the clamour & noyse of the peo= ple/ to exclude the false surquedy / vayne glory/ and ydle laude: this forsayd foule

and vgly wretche shulde of custome and of cõsuetude smyte the conquerour in the necke euer and vpõ the heed/ & standmele sayngc to hym in Greke: this worde (Notys polytos) whiche is to say in our englysshe tong as (Knowe thy selfe) whi che declareth vnto him that he nor none other shuld for no suche worldly glory be surquedous ne waxe proude. And that day it was lefull without punysshyng to euery man of hye estate or of lowe to say to hym that was victoure / what that he wolde whether it were of honour or wor shype / of repreue or of shame. And this was admytted for this cause / that he shulde truely consyder and aduerte that there is none erthly glory that fully may be assured without daunger of fortune. And shortly to declare the difference be twene Triũphus & Tropheũ. Triũph is a full & a cõplener ouercomyng of ene mpes by batayle. And Trophe is whan a man putteth his enemyes to flyght with out stroke of swerde. ¶ But touchyng this honour aforsayd whiche Julius re quyred & asked of ryght as for a guerdon whiche him thought was meritory & due vnto him. Anon this forsaid Põpey with full assẽt of all the senate denied all with

one voyce his requeſt: and of one accorde anſwered agayne & ſayd hym platly he ſhuld nat be accepted there vnto no ſuche honour/but planly they bad hym knowe that he hade rather deſerued to be deed thã to attayne to anyſuche worſhipe/alle gyng agaynſt hym that he was both rebell & traytour to the ſtatutes of Rome. ¶And whã Julius clerely cõceyued the ſhorte anſwere of the cenate & of this Põpey tofore ſaid/there kindeled a ful great hote brényng fyre of enuy in his harte of the fretyng hate ſpecially that he bare in his breſte for to be reuenged of Pompey. ¶And as Lucan reherceth i his poetical boke: the deneyng of this worſhipe to Julius: was the chefe groũde & occaſion of all the warre that began in Rome/rote & begynning alſo of all the cõtageous diuiſion among thẽ ſelfe. ¶But ſo as Lucan lyketh to reherce & ſpecify in his boke aforeſayd among other cauſes that he put Lye in eſpeciall wryteth of thre whiche were chefe begynnyng and rote of diuiſion among thẽ ſelfe / prouyng by reaſon in thoſe thre: that it muſt nedes be: that the felicite & the proſperite of Rome muſt abate & drawe to decline/the whiche thre: Firſt he ſayth it was neceſſary that ſuche

aduersyte shulde fall to Rome. Secondarely he sayth it was cōsuetadynary. And thyrdly he saith it was volūtary. ¶ First that it was necessary: he proueth by example of nature in this wyse. That lyke as Phebus the sonne: whan he aryseth ī the Orient: and by successyue course ascēdeth into the hyghest poynte of the Myd day spere: and of his kynde and naturall course must discende: and hath his goldē tressed hornes in the westren wawes: and than dymmeth & darkneth our emespery by absence of his lyght: & also eke whan the same goldē wayne of Tytan: fro the Ariet is whyrled vp to the hyghest towre of his ascention in the celestyall sygne of the crabbe: and thā by the myghty compellyng of natures ryght: he is constreyned to discende downe & auale his charet. Ryght so semblably there is no worldly worshype so bryght nor clere shynyng in erth: but that it must enclyne and auale downe as sone as he hathe attayned to the hyghest & the most famous poynte of his ascencion. For lyke as the rage & the haboundaūt flowe: whan it hath raught his stourdy wawes to the hyest: sodeynly foloweth an ebbe & maketh him to resorte agayne. In the same wyse whā any tem-

poꝛall pꝛoſperite is moſt flowyng in felicite: than is a ſodeyne ebbe of aduerſyte moſte to be adꝛad. ¶Alſo in the ſame wyſe as ye may clerely diſcerne and conſyder at the eye: In trees and herbes/ that whan the vegetatyfe vertue by the confoꝛtable influence of the ſonne: is after the colde wynter: In Ver by lytell and lytell aſcended into bꝛaunches and bowes: and cauſeth them foꝛ to budde & to bloſſome newe: and alſo in herbes maketh a luſty and a freſſhe colouꝛe newly to appere: And moꝛe ouer by pꝛoceſſe of tyme with her holſome bawme apaꝛaleth thē with many folde ſondꝛy colouꝛe: of red/ whyte/ and grene: and thā anon after in diſcence of Appollo the ſonne: the ſame vertue fꝛo the cꝛop aualeth agayne in to the rote: ryght ſo there is no felicite ſo flouryng/ noꝛ none ſo apparayled with bloſſomes and blomes of tranſytoꝛy rycheſſe: but as ſone as the ſhynyng ſonne of her gloꝛy ſhedeth his beames moſt clere: full vnwarely ere they can aduerte oꝛ take hede: ben robbed and reued of theyꝛ loꝛdeſhype and plonged adowne by occaſyon of ſome aduerſyte/ bꝛought and enduced into aduerſyte: outher by ſeckenes oꝛ by deth. ¶And thus

that the fyrste cause is naturall and ne-
cessary: and that all worldly pompe and
pryde shall passe: myne auctour Lucan
hath proued by reason. Than touchyng
the seconde cause whiche is called custom-
able and consuetudinary: ye may consy-
der that euer of custome it falleth that
whan the blynde goddesse of varyaunce
Dame Fortune hathe enhaunced a man
hyghest vpon her whyle: with a sodeyne
sygh she plongeth hym downe agayne.
¶ Euident example ye may take of kyngs
and prynces that haue ben tofore. And
thā touchyng the thyrde cause of distruc-
cion of the Cite: Lucan lyketh to call it
in his poeticall muses: voluntary. ✱
whiche is as moche to say: as a cause ro-
ted vpon wylfulnes without any ground
founded vpon reason. For onely of wyl-
fulnes they were so blynde: that thē lyst
nat to knowe thē selfe: but thought them
selfe so assured in theyr felicite: that they
myght nat by no collaterall occasyon of
aduersite be perturbed ne put out therof.
¶ And thus through false surquedrāce
they were made so wylfull that none lyst
to obeye other. And so was brought in
obstynacye: euerych of them demynge
hym selfe egall to other. And thus of cō
trarious discorde amonge thē selfe: onely

of bolunty: they stode discouered and de-
uyded/ whiche was one of the chefe occa-
syons of theyr destruction. And for this
skyll tofore declared. Lucan calleth the
thyrde cause boluntary: in as moche as
it was falsly founded vpon wyll. ¶ And
thus fyrste by a cause necessary: and by
the seconde cause called consuetudynary
shewed tofore by example of custume: and
by this laste thyrde cause called bolūtary
roted onely vpon wyll: The Romanes
amonge them selfe: stode in suche contra
uersye: That they douted to whiche par
ty they shulde enclyne. ✠ And compen-
diously to declare howe all these causes
of diuision. Howe the warre whiche of
clerkes is called Bellum Ciuile: whiche
is as moche to saye in englysshe: As a
warre among them selfe. ✠ For the clere
compendious proces of whiche: fyrste ye
shall consider that Julius playnly enfor-
med of the malicious cōspiracy cōpassed
and wrought agaynste hym. Anon as he
in his repayre out of Albyon was passed
the bondes of Almaygne & had attayned
to high Alpies / whiche of auctours ben
called the colde frosty hylles/ and the bon
des of Lombardy / & so holdyng his pas-
sage by the flode of the sturdy ryuer called

of Lucan (Rubicanis) there appered to hym an olde auncient lady heuy and dyery in a mantell of blacke/ her face wympled tofore in full dolorous wyse: the tresses of her hede for age full hore and whyte. And for constreynt of her hartely worcue vpon the tyme whan the blacke darke nyght had ouer spredde theyr emyspery with the bordure of her vglyand her clouy cope. This wofull lady tofore sayd began her lamentable complaynt to Julius in this wyse. ¶ Oh ye noble worthy knyghtes moste renomed of fame: Alas/ whether purpose ye with so myghty apparayll of Mars to procede/ or where caste ye to fytche your stourdystandardes or to displaye your terefull pynons and baners. Oh alas agaynste whome haue ye caste fynally to execute the mortall hate that brenneth in your harte/ or agaynst whome purpose ye in suche cruell wyse to proue your myght. Remember in your thought that ye be vpholden by the Senate of Rome/ and your selfe accompted as for noble and full worthye knyghtes of the Cite/ and shewe nat your selfe nowe enemyes to the Empyre/ by whose worthynes afore tyme it hath ben susteyned & mightely supported agaynste

the assaute of all her fone. ❧ And Oh alas aduerte and consyder in your harte the noble and the prudent statutes of the policy of Rome/ the whiche full playnly doth expresse that it is lefull vnto no mā for to passe the bondes of this streme: but if he be mortall enemye and rebell vnto Rome. ❧ Nowe ye therfore that haue so longe ben frendes/ and so manly mayntayned the honour of the cite: withdrawe your fote and haste nat to faste: but let good deliberacion restrayne your reynes that hasty wylfulnes lede you nat to confusion/ nat onely of your selfe: but vnto the originall ruyne of the Cite: by the haboundant shedyng of blode that is lykely to ensue. ¶ And sodeynly whan this lady had briefly expressed the sūme of her sētēce without more she disapered. ¶ This māly man and fortunate knyght Julius in party dismayed of this vncouth apparence: restreyned his hoste: and made them to fetche theyr tentes endelong the stronde vpon the hynder parties of the ryuer. ❧ And in his vncouthe affray: he sodeynly abrayd: sayd in this wyse.

¶ Oh thou mighty Jupiter vnder whose demayne Vulcanus forgeth the dredfull sownes of the thonder: and causeth hertz

to aryse with the fyre leuen: And oh ye godd; and goddesses that whylome hade the gouernaūce of our aūceters in Troy: and oh ye noble goddes Remus and Romulus the famous founders & the mighty protectours and patrones of the Cite of Rome: I as humble subiecte vnto your deite full lowly beseche and requyre you of equyte and ryght to be well wylly and fauourable to promote my true quarell and cause/ and benyngly of your boūteous goodnes to fauoure and fortune the hygh enterpryse whiche of iuste tytle I purpose for lyfe or deth through your fauoure to execute / and nat as enemye nor rebell to Rome: but as a true Citezē and a preued knyght cast me fully to persuer. with cōdicion that lyke as I haue manly deserued: I may be receyued/ makyng a protestacion that nat as enemye but as full frende and subiecte to Rome I wyll be sounde stedfaste and true. ❧ Wherfore ye mighty and noble Senatours of Rome I requyre you of ryght that ye nothing arecte nor aserue to my gylte that I come with stronge & mighty hande: that I entre the bondes of the emperiall fraunchyse. Makyng a full protestacion that only with a clene cōscience

nat entryked with none entente of euyll meanyng: that I come to you of full purpose to be receyued as for your frēde and nat as your foo. Requiryng also to holde hym (what so euer he be) for full enemye to your noble cite: that of wyll and entēt laboureth to make discorde atwene vs twayne. For so that my meritory gwerdon whiche that I haue in my conqueste iustely deserued be nat denyed me: I am and euer wyll be: for lyfe or deth: a true knyght to the Cite: to my lyues ende.

¶ And forthwith makyng no delay: lyke a Lyon nat dismayed nor afraied: Fyrste of all in his owne persone he passed the Ryuer / the whiche ryuer lyke as Lucan remembreth: the same tyme at the comyng of Cezar: agaynst his custumable course: was reysed on heygh into a great flode / & all the whyte Snowes of Alpies were resolued with the beames of Phebꝰ where through the ryuers in the valyes were reysed so hygh that vnnethes any mā might passe. But Juliꝰ of no vncouth aduētures afraied / but like a māly mā ful well assured in him selfe: ī the p̄sence of al his worthy knyghtes: said in this wyse.

¶ Here I leue behynd all the olde cōfederacies made betwyxte Rome & me / & here

I leue all the frendshipe of olde antiquite and onely folowe the traces of fortune: and of hole intente begynne a ryghtfull warre: for cause onely that by mediacion of peace profered in my syde: I may nat attayne my tytle of ryght. ¶ And anon without more delacyon euen vpon the spryng of the daye: whiche of clerkes is called Aurora: he vnwarely with all wor thy multytude of his knyghtes entred in to the cite(called of Lucan)Arimye/ a cite partinent to Rome / and there he toke fyrste possessyon of the Empyre: none so hardy to resyste nor to withstande the fury of his swerde / and all this whyle the Romanes standyng in doute to whiche partye they shulde enclyne / whether to Cezar or to Pompey. For of charite that they had to theyr wyues and theyr chyldren and to the olde statutes of the Cite/ they were fauourable to Pompey/and of drede that they had of Cezares swerde: they stode in so greate ambiguite: that they coulde nat deme what was beste to do. ❧ Lo howe the mortall enuye of twayne was cause and occasyon that / that noble cite whiche had all the worlde in subiection / and was called Lady and Empresse of all regions was brought in

to destruccion. ✠ For in these two: firste beganne the diuision whiche neuer after myght parfytely be restored nor reconsiled to vnyte/wherby as semeth vnto me: that all prudent Princes whiche haue the gouernaunce in prouinces and Regions shulde take example what harme and damage it is/ and howe fynall a destruction it is to be deuyded among them selfe. ✠ And for to ratify by more Auctentyke example howe moche that vnyte more auayleth thā diuision I wyll shortly reherce an example the whiche Valerie putteth/ and it is this. ¶ This auctour reherceth that whylome whan the Cite of Rome stode lykely to haue ben deuyded of a debate that was newly begonne amonge them selfe: there was a wyse Philosopher among them: whiche of hygh discressyon consydered the great peryll that was lykely to fall and folowe and though he wolde of wysdome voyde that myght ensue. And in presence of all the senate and lordes of the cite: he made bryng forth an horse whiche had a longe and a thycke tayle growē behynde. And than he cōmaunded the myghtyest champion of the towne to set on both his handes and assaye if he myght by force pull

of the horse tayle at a plucke. And albeit that he plucked to the vttermoste of his myght: it wolde nat auayle. ¶ And thā anon this Philosopher made call to the presence of the Senate: the most impotent man of the Cite: a man vnweldy and croked of age. And this Philosopher made this olde man to plucke the one heare after a nother of the horse tayle / tyll by lytell and lytell: by pces the taile was wasted clene away/and the horse naked and bare behynde. ¶ Beholde sayd the Philosopher: That whyle the tayle of the horse was hole and one in it selfe: and euerychē heare with other (vndeuyded) the myghtyest champyon of your Cite myght do therto no damage. But as sone as euery heare was deuyded and disseuered fro other: he that was leste of power among ye all: lefte neuer tyll the tayle was cōsumed & brought to nought ¶ By whiche example sayd the Philosopher: Prudently aduerte and wysely caste tofore: that as longe as ye be one in your selfe and of one harte: there is none so stronge nor so myghty that may auayle by force to attempte your worthynes. But as sone as amonge your selfe one is deuyded from a nother: your enc-

mpes: thoughe they be full impotente of
power: they shal by proces of tyme pluck
away the most fayrest and the most shene
fethers of your worthynes. ¶ And by
this example the philosopher forsayd
reconsyled the Romanes agayne to vnite: and voyded away diuision among the
selfe. ¶ Nowe compendiously to re-
sorte agayne to my mater lyke as the sto
ry maketh mencion: the Romanes stan-
dyng in great contrauersy among them
selfe: to whiche party they shulde drawe
The goddes by many sygnes and prono
stications declared vnto them the greate
myschefe that was lykely and very sem-
blable to folowe. ✠ For there appered
vnto the many vncouth ymages of sterres/some in brennyng habetions of fyre.
¶ And some with bryght brondes in their
handes castynge flame enuyron. ¶ And
some with fyry dartes and sharpe hoked
arowes shotynge in the ayre. ¶ And in
especiall there appered a large Comete
of stremes the whiche raught theyr brast
ches on the foure plages of the fyrma-
ment. ¶ And the sonne also whan he
shone moste bryghte in the meredionall
plage: the day vnwarly tourned to nyght.
¶ And the pale mone against the comon

courſe of her kynde: ſodeinly ſhe was clip
ſed of her lyght. And forther the dredfull
Karibeis of the ſee Cycyle was tourned
in to blode. All the houndes alſo: beyng
in the bondes of Rome: lette the noyſe of
theyr barkyng/ and in ſygne of pronoſti-
cacion of great ſorowe that was to come
theyhowled and weymented that it was
pyte to here / and the ſuperſticious fyre:
whiche cõtynually tofore was wonte to
bren in the chaſt temple of the goddes cal
led Veſta: the flambe of the ſame fyre e-
uer beyng brygbt vpon her aulters. Of
the whiche fyre: by olde tyme was pro-
phecied / that as ſone as it deuyded and
departed atwene (as it dyd than) that
the feaſtes and the ſolẽpnytes of Rome
ſhulde ceace. And lyke as the ſmokes of
the funerall fyre of the Theban brethern
departed at Thebes: Kyght ſo the de-
partyng of fyre vpon theyr aulters: was
a true ſygne and a pronoſtyke of diuiſion
that ſhulde fall among thẽ ſelfe / fynally
to declare to euery region that where as
the fyre of loue and parfyte charite ſtand
departed and deuyded among them ſelfe
it is a very euydence/that without reme-
dy it drawyth to his deſtruction. Alſo an
euydent token that ſodeyne myſchefe of

diuision shulde folowe: the lompyng wa-
wes of the see surmounted the heyght of
Athlantys hylles. ¶ Also all the tyche
ymages in the Tẽples of Rome: whiche
were made of golde / syluer / and dyuers
other sondry metalles: so as they stode
in theyr ryche & costly tabernacles: they
were sene thylke tyme of diuision wofull-
ly cõplaynyng and weppyng / so forforth:
that the teares of theyr eyen distylled a
downe into the erth/to compleyne the de
solacion of theyr Cite onely caused by oc
casion of theyr cõtagcous diuision amõg
thẽ selfe. ¶ Byrdes also agaynst the cu-
tome of theyr nature: were sene fleynge
vpõ nyghtes. And bestes also were herde
spekyng/ and womẽ brought forth mon-
struous chyldren. And all these vncouth
wonders befell but a lytell tofore this
forsaid diuision i the noble cite of Rome
for the dredfull tyme approched full nere
of the whiche Cybyll so long had prophe
cied afore: whan she sent the shorte sũme
of her sentẽce to the Senatours of Rome
cõpendiously in the nombre of. vi. letters
Thre. R. R. R. and thre. F. F. F. whiche
were fully the pronostication of. vi. mys-
chefes that shulde of necessyte fall vnto
the cite of Rome: comprehended and in-

cluded in the.vi. letters specifyed in this wyse. ✠ Regna/Rome/Ruent. Fero/ Flāme/Fame. The Region of Rome by three thynge shall drawe to ruyne. Fyrste by the swerde of warre amonge thē selfe. And nexte by fyre. And than by hunger. The whiche three myscheefes so contageously shall assayle the Cite: that it shalbe verye vnportable vnto thē. And the grounde and rote of all this confusyon shalbe amonge them selfe discorde and diuision. ¶ Forthermore to declare sondry prono stications that fell in theyr Cite whā the preestes made sacrifyce to theyr goddes: theyr fyres sodeynly quenched. ¶ In the graues and sepulcres of deed men: there were herde wofull and lamētable noyses and sownes whiche dyd put the people in very great drede. ¶ And in this wyse the myscheefe and the ruyne was shewed and declared. ¶ Fyrste by dyuers fygures and sondry lykenesses of sterres shewed in the heuen. And nexte by wonderfull monstres in the erth. ¶ Also the byrdes and the foules of the ayre came homly and nat afrayde fleynge in to the Cite/ by the whiche sygne theyr Clerkes that be called Augures expounden it to theyr confusyon. ¶ And they by many

folde mo sygnes than I may or can declare: the subuertion of the Cite full long was shewed toforne/onely bygon of this contageous diuision. ¶ But shortly to entreat the substaunce of the story whan that Cesar with strong hande approched the bondes of Rome: after whan he had wonne the Cite of Arimye: and had also cõquered Raucnne: and Pompey forfere was fled towarde the parties of Grece to make him selfe stronge. They of Rome had shortely determyned in sentence that Cesar nat entre the cite: but so were that his hole retynue were lefte behynde. But whã they knewe & sawe him so passyngly myghty & strong/they began to quakẽ in theyr hertes/ and namely whã they were destytute of an hede. Of whiche and for that: some Dukes of Pompey drewe thẽ to the parties of Italye into a Cite whiche whylome was called Dirachiũ. And euer this worthye knyght Iulius with his chiualry pursued after / and all that withstode he slewe. And the remenaũte he put manly to flyght. And day by day the power of Cesar gan multyply and encreasse. ¶ And maugre all hys enemyes: of very force he entred the Cite. And as some auctours expresse: whã the

Romanes(for drede)were redy to receiue hym by theyr gates: he of indygnacion and disdayne:made breche the walles and proudely entred as a conquerour / and iusticied the Romanes as his.And holly toke on hym the gouernaunce/nat onely of the Cite: but of all the hole Empyre.
¶And maugre the Senate he brake the brasen doze of theyr treasure/and by vyolence toke and raught it away/and plenteously departed it among his knightes.
¶And in this meane whyle: full many kynges of the Est party of the worlde came and assembled before the forsayd Cite called Dirachium. Of entent to sustayne the partye of Pompey agaynste Julius. And as sone as there was made relacion to Julius Cesar of this greate assemble: He made no delay: but with all his power passed by a coūtrey whiche of myne auctour is called Epirum. And so he entred in to the costes of Thessalye/ where as he founde Pompey: batayled agaynste hym with foure score Cohortes and eyght/ departed in to thre wardes.
¶Nowe to declare the nombre and the multytude of a Cohorte: ye shall understande that there ben two maner of Cohortes/ the more: and the lesse. And the

more by discripcion of Auctours/contey-
neth fyue hundreth / and the lesse : foure
hundreth. There were also on the party
of Pompey : fourty thousãde of fote mẽ.
And i the lefte wynge/ there were besyde
all this/ syxe hundred knyghtes on horse
backe. And in the ryght wynge: there
were.b.C. Amonge whiche as Vincent
in his myrrour hystoriall maketh mynde
there were many kynges and princes /
and many other worthy senatours and
knyghtes of Rome whiche came in de-
fence of Pompey. ¶ And as it is remẽ-
bred also : Cesar had.lxxx. Cohortes/de-
uyded and departed in thre wardes. And
with this he had. xxx. M. of fote men /
without passyng great nõbre of knyghtes
on horsbacke. And i this mortall batayle
all the party of Põpey were put to flyght
and there were slaine on his syde.xii.M.
and of worthyleders whiche be called Cẽ
turians: were slayne.xxxii. And Pom-
pey fled out of the felde / and for refuge
toke a Shype and passed by the bondes
of Asye through Thyrye / and aryued in
Egypte. And there anon at his arriuayle
by the cõmaundement of Tholome king
of Egypte: he was beheded only for loue
and fauoure of Cesar. ¶ And fro this

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victory this forsayd Cesar hasted to the partyes of Syrye / towarde the myghty Cite of Alysaundre. And there Tholome kynge of Alysaũdre helde a batayle with Cesar / both on lande and on water. In whiche warre were slaine. xxii. M. in the felde. And. xii. hundreth Shypes discomfyted and drowned. ¶ And Tholome the kyng: as he wolde haue fled out of a shyp (for haste) he fell in to the see & was drowned. And as his body was caste to lande: he was knowē and discouered by a gylte Haberion / the whiche Haberion Julius Cesar made to be sent vnto the Cite of Alysaundre / for drede of whiche: they of Alysaundre yelded the Cite vnto hym. ¶ Thā he repaired agayne in to Egypte and by occasyon of the deth of Tholome: he gaue the Septre and the Realme and the hole gouernaunce of Egyte vnto the quene Cleopatra. ¶ And so after the cō queste of many other prouynces / Regions / and Landes: he made his repayre agayne the seconde tyme vnto the Cite of Rome. And there he dyd take vpō him two offyces / both of Counseyle & of Dictatour. ¶ And frō thense he wente vnto the Conqueste of Affryke. And there began a newe warre. In especiall agaynste

all the Alyaunce and the blode of Pompey. And slewe all the Dukes that were enclyned to be fauourable to the partye of Pompey / among whiche were slayne thre myghty Prynces / Faustus / Cilla / & Postumus. And Pompeya the doughter of Pompey: iuged to be deed. ¶ And frō those parties he entred with a myghty and strong hande into Spayne. And there (so as Suetonius wryteth) he toke vpon hym power to receyue the trybute / whiche on the party of Spayne was due vnto Rome. ¶ And so as this story maketh mencion he proceded so farre in his conquest / so that he came to the Pyllers of Gades. And there he entred in to the temple of the strong myghty Champion called Hercules. And whan he beheld in the same tēple a ryche ymage of golde set vp for a memory of kyng Alysaundre. ¶ Anon this Cezar gan to sygh and cōplayne in hym selfe: that he neuer might attayne in his conquest to deserue so victorious a Palme of worthynes: as in theyr tyme dyd Alysaunder and Hercucules. ✠ And thus pensyble and heuy (he yssuyng out of the Temple of Hercules) fully purposed him i his courage: knyghtly to take vpon hym of manly courage:

some newe enterpryses of hygh prowesse And whyles that he was thus supprysed in his best thought: The nexte nyght ensuyng/he had a wonderful vision: whyche was this. ☞ It semed vnto hym in his slepe/ that he medled with his owne mother. Of the whyche dreme he full greatly afrayd and horribly agrysed: made call to his presence/his wyse Philosophers and diuinours / to gyue a playne and a clere interpretacion vpon his dreme. ✠ And they anon cõcluded in shorte sentẽce that it was an euydent sygne that he shuld be fully put in possessyon to haue the Imperiall domination ouer all the worlde. For these prudent Philosophers vnderstode nothyng by the flesshely cõiunction that he had with his mother: but a knotte of alyaunce / perfourmed vp betwene the erth and hym. Understandyng in theyr exposicion: that the erth is primordiall mother of all thyng / concludyng therby that he shulde attayne to be lorde & Emperour ouer all the partyes of the erth. ¶ And thus in all hast after the myghty cõqueste of Affryke/he repayred the thirde tyme to Rome. And was made Emperoure ouer all the worlde. And was so farforth enhaunced on heyght: that the

Sonne of his worthynes was ronne so farre vpon his spere that it attayned to the hyghest pryche of his exultacion. So that of necessyte he must discende. ¶ For as the story maketh mencion: he persecu ted nat in his Empyre fully the space of fyue yere. ¶ And for to reherce compen diously the prodigies and the wonderful sygnes that befell afore his deth. ¶ It is remembred that the same yere of Ju lius deth: In the yle of Capwey: there was founde by Quarreours of the Coun trey a Riche Tombe of Stone. And ther in was founde a lytell tablet of golde gra uen with letters of Greke/ sayng in this wyse. ¶: whan euer it shall befall that the Tombe of Capys shalbe opened: and that his bonesshalbe vnclosed/that same yere shall the noble and worthy Conque rour Julius Cezar be murdred in the Ca pytoly at Rome by the false conspiracye and ymagination of them that he hath trusted most. ¶ Nowe was this forsayd Capys a worthy man and of great auc torite: and the fyrste founder and begyn nynger of the countrey of Capwey / and named after him. And lyke as the letters in Greke specified it befell. ¶ And the seconde prodigythat befel tofore the deth

of Cezar: was this. ✠ Upon the same nyght tofore: that he was slayne on the morowe: This noble Conquerour Julius had a reuelacion. ✠ Semyng vnto hym in his slepe: that he was wynged lyke an Egle. And howe he toke his fleght so hygh / that he sored abouc the skyes/ and aproched to the Celestiall see of Jupiter: And fell downe vpō the right hande of his god. ¶ A nother maruey-lous sygne or prodigy there fell. ✠ Also his wyfe named Caliphurna: a lytell to fore the deth of her lorde Julius: had a wonderfull dreme or vision / semyng vn-to her whan she was a slepe: That the most hyghest Pynacle of the Imperiall palays: sodeinly and vnwarely fel downe and therupon incontynently all the wyn dowes of the Chambre where she slepte: without hande of any man / sodeynly brake a two theyr barres of yron and ope ned. ✠ Of whiche noyse she beynge sore afrayde i her slepe/ and of feminine drede full sore syghed in her herte: as she that coulde nat conceyue in mynde what it ment. ¶ Also as Unycent in his hysto-riall bokes maketh mēcion: An hundred dayes before his pytcous murder: in the large market place of Rome / where as

the stature and the great ymage of Cesar stode vpon an hyghe pyller of stone: the name of Cesar grauē with letters of gold aboue his heed: whan the wether and the attempre ayre was most clere and styll / with a sodeyne stroke of the fyry leuen / the fyrste lettre of his name. C. was smyten away. Declaryng by this pronostical sygne that lyke as this lettre. C. in nombre betokeneth an hundreth: and was also most craftely wroght and grauen as for the chefe capitall letter of his name / to shewe openly that the raspng away of this letter by vyolence of the fyry leuen: that he that was heed of all the erthe / within the space of a hūdreth dayes next ensuynge: shulde be vengeably murdred in Rome. ¶ Also the same day of his murder: as he wente moste ryally in his Imperiall araye towarde the Consystory: a poore man named Tongilius toke hym lettres of all the purposed cōspiracy by the Senate vpon his deth. But for he was neglygent to rede the lettres and to vnclose them: the vengeable murder was execute vpon hym. ¶ By whiche example: let no man be slowe nor neglygente to rede his letters / lest after for his neglygēce it may tourne hym to great damage

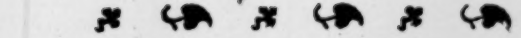
whiche after may nat lyghtly be recouered. ☞ And the chefe cause and worker of this murder: was Brutus Crassus / associed vnto him two hundred and sixty of the Senate: all hauyng Bodkyns in theyr sleues. ✠ And as it is in story remembred: he had foure and twenty deedly woundes as he sat in the Capytoly. And as sayeth myne auctoure / he neuer in all his smarte: made nouther crye nor no noyse / excepte onely a lamētable and a dolorous syghe lyke a man that with sodeyne sorowe were afrayed. ¶ So that touchynge the vengeable maner of his pyteous murder: I may conclude with hym that was Flowre of Poetes in our Englysshe tonge / and the fyrste that euer enlumyned our language with flowres of Rethoryque and of Eloquence. ✠ I mene my Maister Chaucer / whiche cōpendiously wrote the deth of this myghty Emperoure / Sayng in this wyse: as foloweth.

(::).'.(/):☜

¶ With Bodkyns / was Cezar Julius
Murdred at Rome / of Brutus Crassus
When many a region he had brought full lowe
Lo: who may truste Fortune any thowe.

THus by wrytynge of my wyse prudent maister tofore sayd: The frowarde and the contrarypous Lady Dame Fortune: spareth neyther Emperoure nor Kyng/ to plonge hym downe sodeynly fro the hyghest pycke of her vnstable whele. ☞ Alas that neuer man lyste to lyfte vp his hertes eye/ and prudently to aduerte the mutabilite and the sodeyne chaunge of this false worlde. ✠ And let the wyse gouernours of euery lande and region make a myrroure in theyr mynde of this manly man Julius/and consyder in theyr hertes the contageous damages and the importable harmes of diuision/ and let them se aduysedly/ and take ensample howe the ambicious pryde of Julius/the freting enuy of Pompeyus/ and the vnstauncheable gredy Couetyse of Marcus Crassus: were chefe & primordiall cause of theyr destruction. Executed and accomplysshed by cruell deth. ✠ And nat onely that these aforsayd thre abhomynable vyces were cause of theyr owne deth onely: but occasyon of many a thousande other/ many more than I can tell. ¶ ∴ Thus the Cite of Rome nat onely made bare and barayne of theyr olde ryches/and spoyled of theyr treasure on the

tone syde: but destytute and desolate by deth of theyr knyghthode on the other syde. ✗ Me semeth ought ynough suffice to exemplify what it is to begyn a warre: And specially to consyder the irrecuperable harmes of diuision. And for this skyll (moste especially by cōmaundemēt of my maister) I toke vpon me this lytell translacion/ and after my lytell cōnynge: haue put it in remembraunce.



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¶: Thus endeth this lytell treatyse entytuled the Damage and destruction in Realmes. Newly and of late Imprinted by me Roberte Redman. Dwellynge at London in Flete Strete at the sygne of the George.

THis lytel proſe: declareth in fygure
The great damage: & deſtruction
That whylome fell / by fatall auenture
Unto Rome / the myghty royall towne
Cauſed onely / by falſe Diuiſion
Amonge them ſelfe/ the ſtory telleth thus
Through Couetiſe/ and vaine Ambicion
Of Pompey: and of Cezar Julius.

CChriſte him ſelfe/ recordeth i ſcripture
That euery lande/ and euery region
whiche is deuided/ may no whyle endure
But tourne in haſte/ to deſolacion
For whiche ye lordꝭ/ & prices of renowne
So wyſe/ ſo manly: and ſo vertuous
Make a myrroure/ tofore in your reaſon
Of Pompey: and of Cezar Julius.

CHarme don by deth/ no mā may recure
Agaynſte whoſe ſtroke/ is no redempcion
It is full harde/ in Fortune to aſſure
Her whele ſo ofte / tourneth vp & downe
And for to eſchewe/ ſtryfe and diſcencion
within your ſelfe/ be nat contrarious
Remembrynge ay/ in your diſcreſſyon
Upon Pompey: and Cezar Julius.

CFINIS.